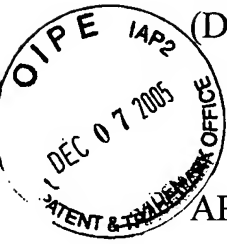


309,161
(DT-6705)



IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

APPLICANT : Armin Herb
SERIAL NO. : 10/728,252
FILED : December 4, 2003
FOR : FASTENING SYSTEM
EXAMINER : David C. Reese GROUP: 3677

Mail Stop: AF
Commissioner of Patents
P.O. Box 1450
Alexandria, V.A. 22313-1450

SECOND AMENDMENT UNDER 37 C.F.R. §116

Sir:

This is a response to the final Office Action dated June 10, 2005, (a request for a third-month extension of time is enclosed herewith) and the Advisory Action dated November 29, 2005.

In the Final Office Action, the Examiner rejected Claims 1-9, 11-12 and 15-17 as being anticipated by the prior art, and indicated that claims 10, 13, 14 and 18 would become allowable upon having been rewritten in independent form, including all of the limitation of the base claim and any intervening claims.

The Examiner's indication of the allowability of claims 10, 13, 14 and 18 is appreciated.

Please amend the above-referenced application as follows: